THE FARMS AND ORCHARDS OF UTAH. &

FARMING.

N reviewing the wheat and other for the Christmas "News" Sam great fruit-producing states. Williamson of this city says: Wheat crop conditions.—In re- LIVE STOCK. viewing the course of the grain trade in Utah for the year 1991, I regret to have to record a very poor yield for wheat. The extreme heat in July and August cut down the crop yield, from what presented a promising appearance in May and June, to barely half a crop at harvest time. The very hot weather burned up and prematurely ripened a very large proportion of the

crop; and it is doubtful whether the yield of wheat this year has exceeded two million bushels in our state. Not only so, but a large quantity of the wheat has been so piuched and thin in the heart that it, bus heart to be used. berry that it has had to be used for feed purposes, leaving the quantity available for human consumption bare y sufficient for our ever growing popu-The profitable nature of the beet industry and the good prices available for hay and oats has also no doubt materially lessened the acreage devoted to wheat culture in Utah. Many of the points in our state which used to be producers of considerable, wheat, not producers of considerable wheat, not only have given up raising the same but are heavy buyers themselves. The unprecedented activity in our mining camps has also led to an urgent de-

mand for flour from these quarters. The crops in Sanpete and Sevier have been practically a failure for two years, and the curious feature has been observed that these places are importing their bread stuffs; a literal case of

'carrying coals to Newcastle.' About one hundred thousand bushels were exported from Utah to Colorado and Texas at the time our crop was harvested, but it now appears that our millers made a serious mistake in al-lowing this wheat to go out of their hands, as we are now importing heavi-

ly from Washington and Oregon.
Prices.—During the first half of the year 1901 the fluctuations in prices were not important, wheat ranging from 50 cents to 60 cents per bushel, but during e second half there has been a sharp advance and wheat today is worth 73 cents to 76 cents per bushel in Salt Lake City, and not much appearance of the consumers obtaining any relief from this range of values until another crop has been reaped.

Crop Prospects.-The Autumn sown wheat has been put into the ground un-der favorable conditions and there has been sufficient moisture to give it a good start while at this time of writing the ground has received a fair covering of snow which should protect it from freezing.

The wheat crop in the southwest part of Idaho (which is in a measure tribu-tary to Salt Lake City) has also been small; and instead of being large exporters as in former years, the people in that part of Idaho have scarcely had more than sufficient for the grinding of their own mills

Oats.-The crop has been a bountiful one, both in Utah and southern Idaho, i but the demand also has been extremely obtain first rate prices throughout the

Prices .- Before the new crop was harvested there was a great scarcity of oats and prices touched as high as \$1,70 to \$1.73 per hundred pounds in carloads at Salt Lake City. The new crop opened at about \$1.20 to \$1.25 per hundred pounds, and the market at this time for carloads varies from \$1.35 to \$1.45 per hundred pounds, according to quality and position, in carloads at Salt Lake Barley,-There has been about the

usual yield of this cereal and a good demand for feed descriptions. The sea-son opened at about 92c to \$1.00 per 100 pounds, and this description is now worth about 15 cents to 20 cents per hundred pounds more than at the beginning of the season. Brewing and chevalier barley has not

been in quite as good request as last season and prices have been nearer the value of feed barley than we have almost ever seen before, varying from \$1.10 to \$1.25 per hundred pounds, according to quality.

Alfalfa Seed.—The yield this season

has been better than in the year 1900, but still not quite up to the average, as the grasshoppers did considerable damage in Utah county and also in some other parts of the state.

Prices have not been as high as in

the year 1900, as there has been a large crop raised in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado, and the farmers in these states have been competing for the

Values in carloads have been about \$6.75 to \$7.50 per hundred pounds, according to quality and cleanliness.

HORTICULTURE.

HE excellence of Utah fruit has long since been recognized all over the intermountain region and even in the East, and abroad. There is nothing to indicate that the quality of the fruit will ever retrograde, but rather to the contrary, the orchardists of the state are working more earnestly every year to bring their fruit nearer to perfection. The crop this year was rather small, particularly the apple harvest. The pear crop was only about onefourth of what it usually is; but the yield in plums and prunes was very fair. One of the reasons for this is that the trees last year overbore themselves and became weak. Another is that most trees only bear heavily every other year, and the crop last year was unusually large. And still another cause is assigned for the comparatively meager fruit harvest this year and that is the extreme dryness of the season. This had the result of preventing the trees to come to a maturity and hence could not set a good crop of buds. next year will be very large provid-ing there is no late spring frost. There will not be so many apple worms next year for the reason that they were greatly diminished this season on account of the small apple crop. This will tend to insure a large supply of the king of fruit in 1902.

Ring of trutt in iss.

San Jose scale, the greatest known menace to the fruit had made its insidious inroads into parts of the state, but has by no means become preva-lent. It has given the orchardists of Weber and Utah countles some alarm as it has appeared in those localities But not to such an extent but it can be eradicated by proper and vigorous treatment. The fruit in Salt Lake coun-ty is comparatively healthy. Of course ty is comparatively healthy. Of course the old stock pests such as the codling moth and woolly aphles are still among us, but the fruit growers in and about Salt Lake are gradually getting the upper hand of them. Some of the orchards are entirely free from their enemies and a splendid luclous and healthy fruit, tree from taint is already produced. It is hoped that it will not be long until such a fine condition shall prevail all over the state.

The careful fruit grower who really takes pride in his orchard will this winter the states.

farm cereal conditions of Utah the state in increasing, and if it continues Utah will soon rank among the

HILE THE days of large herds are a thing of the past, Utah nevertheless bolds her own when it comes to the cattle business. During late years much attention has been paid to the breed and quality of the animals in this state, with the result that better stock comes from Utah today than ever before.

Since the sale of the Island Cattle ompany, and the Canaan Co-op herds n 1897 and 1896, there have been no large bunches of cattle owned by a single individual or corporation in this state. Cattle companies no longer pay divi-dends to the extent of \$500,000 in twenst named company—the herds have been broken up and today what ittle is sold and shipped out of the hase the shipments from the ranchman and small farmer. In all at a rough estimate there are some seventyfive dealers in Utah who make it a business to buy up feeders and ship them into the corn belt to fatten for

essentially banner years as far as prices went. This wane can be largely attributed to the falling off of the corn prop in Kansas, where the major portion of the Utah livestock is things. The cattle business during the current year has not been so good as it was during '97, '98, '99, which were essentially banner years as far as order to gain the requisite amount market flesh. It has been found rom long experience that the Utah ranges are not especially adapted for beef for the butcher,

Utah prices have suffered in conjunction with the conditions generally all over the West, with the result that feeding cattle are today quoted at figures that run possibly fifty cents lower per hundred pounds than the prices which were in vogue last spring, and dealers look for the same state of affairs to hold good next year.

At a conservative estimate there have been 50,000 head of cattle of bona fide Utah cattle shipped out of the state during the past year, with a rre-ponderance in favor of the Hereford and Shorthorn breeds. These named classes of cattle have been steadily growing in favor among the raisers year by year until they bid fair to oust the other breeds. It has been demonstrated that the Hereford white foced cattle are specially adapted for Utah ranges from the fact that they are hardy and are endowed by nature with good rustling qualities, while the Short-horns are perhaps a shade less popular, but will do considerably better pro-viding they have plenty of good feed. An estimate given by a prominent

cattleman of the number of head of stock in this state places the hoofs and horns at present in Utah as:
Milch cows, 57,300; average price \$27.50 other eattle, 278

ers, \$20, and over two-year-old, \$24. It is further estimated that there are 71,000 horses and 1,600 mules in Utah. The demand for good horses and mules has been extremely brisk during the past year, horses fetching the average price of \$21, while mules have been ten dollars higher. Good teams, however, have brought much higher prices. The demand, in fact, for good horses has exceeded the supply, and they have been snapped up at solid figures by the agents for railroad contractors and the remount officers of the British army, who have been supplying the troops in South Africa during the past two years with American horses via St. Louis and New Orleans.

UNDER EXISTING CIRCUM-

Utah ranges are carrying nearly all the cattle and horses in conjunction with sheep possible. The cattlemen, however, are building up hope that the business may be enlarged in the near future provided the pending bill to provide for the leasing for grazing purposes of vacant public domain and re-serving all rights of homestead entry passes Congress. When this is accomplished, the lease holder being com-pelled to pay for the land he uses, will protect its forage against extermina-tion by overstocking. The vegetable covering will increase and will more and more conserve the moisture, increasing the means of irrigation. der these conditions the Utah cattle man will feel that he will not confine his shipments in he future to feeders

SHEEP AND WOOL.

YEXT to the mining industry, the sheep business is essentially the leading money maker of Utah. A census of the number of head of Woolbearers in this state would hardly give the uninitiated any idea of the number of heep owned by residents, for the simreason that there are a great numof animals which are ranging in ontiguous states. It is not generally own, perhaps, nevertheless it is an cial fact, that Utah comes at the of the list for the greatest numer of sheep, with perhaps, the excep-on of one other state in the union. During the year that is now drawing a close, the wool clip of the United es, according to the estimate of the National Manufacturers, has been placed at 265,592,328 pounds, exclusive of the pulled wool, as compared with 259.972.815 pounds for the year 1901, an increase of 2½ per cent, while the number in the flocks of the United States, exclusive of lambs under one year old, is estimated

at 41,920,900, or an increase of barely 50,000. Of this number, according to the table compiled by the National association of Wool Manufacturers, there are in Utah some 2,804,674 head of sheep against 2,370,983 the previous year and a little over 2,000,000 in 1893. In the table of the association of the wool clip for the past year, Utah is credited with 16,828,044 pounds, washed and un-washed with an average weight per ce of six pounds, and a shrinkage of 64 per cent, making the production in scoured wool amount to 6,058,096

In the quantity of greasy wool raised

STOMACH BITTERS

This wonderful medicine has never been equalled as a stomach strengthen er and health builder. It is the only one to take when your system is wea will not be long until such a fine condition shall prevail all over the state.

The careful fruit grower who really tet spray his trees with the No. 7, a some needy does not only destroy the complete that the state of the stat and run down and you suffer from Dy:

in Jose scale.

Interest in fruit growing throughout As a fiber producer, Utah is rated sixth on the list, but, everything considered, this year Utah has shown a great improvement all around.

The industry of raising sheep in Utah is not confined to the big dockmasters. While some of the owners of the largest herds reside in the state at the same time it generally holds good that there are numerous small farmers and cattle-men who own their herds and range them in this and neighboring states. There are few cities, towns and settle-ments where the sheep owner does not reside; the consequence is that the proceeds of the annual clip are well distributed all over, and a poor year for the flockmasters in the way of genral returns is sure to make itself felt throughout the length and breadth of the state in one way or another. The Utah sheepmen can be said to be one of

the mainstays of the state.

Taken all in all it has been a hard year for the flockmasters. The mutton market has been very flighty and for the major portion of the time de-pressed. The wool clip has not been so heavy per capita, perhaps, as on pre-vious years, while the prices of wool and mutton generally have not been conductive to good times. However, the flockmasters are very hopeful that next season will be a good one in more

In round figures the Utah wool and sheep industry represents close upon \$20,000,000, while the comparative numbers of sheep owned by Utah men is as

With the growing herds the problem of ranging them grows every year more acute. While Utah has splendid winer ranges, the summer feed gives out, which necessitates the moving the herds to Idaho and Wyoming feeding grounds. This invasion is resented by the ranchers and cattlemen in those districts, and the clash between the two interests at times reaches a stage wherein the invaders are repelled at the point of guns. Especially has this state of affairs been the case in the Red Desert district of Wyoming where everal outrages have been perpetrated by armed men upon Utah herds after dark during the past year. Sheep have been killed by the score, and in some instances herders have been dan-gerously wounded by the bullets that have been fired into the camp from under cover. It is anticipated, how-ever, that these difficulties will be amicably settled during the coming year.

During the year now tirawing to a close a special effort has been made to stamp out that bane of all flockmasters scab. The law upon that much vexed question has been brought to bear upon delinquents with the result that it is noped that it may be effectually stamped out in the near future. Briefly, the Utah sheepmen are hope-

ful regarding the coming season and spring ranges in the state, at the same time they are sanguine that the forest relieving them from the necessity f clashing with the flockmasters and cattlemen of other states.

DAIRY.

HIS year has been rather an off formerly. This has been due to is a highly concentrated but a small

Utah comes fourth, Montana, Wyoming and Idaho coming ahead of it,
ming and Idaho coming ahead of it,
as a fiber producer, Utah is rated sixth
as tate is increasing, and if it continstate is increasing, and if it continas tate is increasing, and if it continas tate in increasing and if it continas the increasing as the increasing and if it continas the increasing as the i ucts, is a nexception. While their hay crop has been small they always have shall do so in the near future a surplus of it and the price depends entirely on the outside market, so that hay has not been much higher there this year than formerly, therefore, about as much milk has been produced there this year as last. In most of the

other countles of the state, particularly in Salt Lake, Utah and Sanpete counties, hay has almost doubled in price and the supply has been very searce, so that farmers have had sell or dry up their stock in order to hat enough hay to keep all the stock alive for the winter, and the milk produced has not been over one half of what it was formerly. This ha had a decided effect on the market and prices this year have ruled a little high er than formerly, but owing to the low price of butter in the eastern marke he increase has been in keeping with he supply. This has been the first year or a number of years that large quan titles of eastern butter and cheese have come into our market. There has, perips, been about one hundred thousand ounds of butter brought here from the ast and probably about the amount of cheese. Had it not been for prices would have ruled very high here

Some of the older creameries have nereased their facilities and there a general inclination on the part of creamery men to centralize the busi-This has been the tendency in the East, especially in Kansas and Ne-braska for the past several years and the Continental Creamery company at Topeka, Kansas, operates about two hunderd creameries as skimming stations, expressing their cream into one central point at Topeka and churning it there. The Beatrice Creamery com-pany at Lincoln, Nebraska, operates skimming stations for considerably less expense, and the cost of a skimming station is not over one-half the cost of a creamery. The express on the there does not cost any more than the express on the butter the cream conains By centralizing the business in this way they get a better and more uniform article of butter and can ship in carloads to every point in the to accomplish the same thing. A complete churning plant with every moa ern appliance is now in overation Salt Lake and in time it is expected that most of the butter that is being shipped out to Montana, California and Colorado will be made here and shipped in carload lots, thus making a 'con siderable saving both in the manufac ture of the product and in the trans-portation of it. One mant in Cache Val-ley has put in a cold storage plant at the cost of \$4,000, and as now able to June and July over to fall and sell while they are short on summer and at the higher prices prevailing at that spring ranges in the state, at the same time. The butter is frezen and if properly taken care of cannot be told from reserves will be thrown open to them, the fresh product, sixty or ninety days

This centralizing will continue and in inside of ninety days, even in the summer there will probably not be over mor reason. We have also been intime there will probably not be over a dozen churning plants in the state. instead of about seventy-five, as present. The farmers are finding that they can best market their hay through feeding it to the covy and producing year in the creamery business. milk, and therefore the business There has been very little will continue to grow correspondbuilding done and nearly all the creameries that have been manufacturing business of the in operation have done state than the creamery business, inbusiness this year than asmuch as the product of the creamery serious of all to our farmers, fruit-growers and beekeepers the past sea-

I am of the opinion that We J. H. FAUST, JR.

BEES AND HONEY.

HE following letter was furnished to the "News" by President E. S. Lovesy of the Utah Beckeepers' association, and is a review of the aplary situation in Utah:

While the bee industry in the beginning of the new century has ben fairly prosperous in some portions of the state, all things considered, the conditions existing in the hitherto great honey producing belt through the central part of the state from east to west are not so gratifying. We have received some very good reports, but on the whole they have not been neary so encouraging and successful as is lesired. In most of the southern counes the honey flow as a rule has been good, and favorable conditions have prevailed generally in most localities uth of Price, and in the norther part of the state at nearly all points north of Ogden. We have received e good reports from some of thos ocalities. The greater portion of the coney has been disposed of but there are still several carloads of No. 1 white al-faifa honey on hand which can be had at reasonable rates. The favorable conlitions existing in the northern and outhern parts of the state, over and bove the central parts, are something out of the common. Some of the causes for this have been a better supply of igation water and less destructive in sect pests. Thus some of the reports from favorable localities in the southpart of the state have been above the average of some other years, some of them being over 125 pounds, while about one hundred and thirty-five the central parts of the state, between creameries and is doing the same Ogden and Price, have ranged all the way from 100 pounds to nothing. The way from 100 pounds to nothing. The entire district which heretofore has generally been the best part of the state for honey flow, this season average but half a crop. In Uintah county the first partial failure ever reported is said to have been due to vast numbers of very small insects secreted in the blossoms of the alfalfa and sweet clover and which are supposed to have devoured the nectar as fast as world. An attmept is being made here it was secreted in the biossoms. The appearance of the insects in question is supposed to have been partially cauled by the hot, dry weather. While other causes are given for a partial failure in other localities the principal reasons seem to have been drouth and grasshoppers. In addition to these in Salt Lake county we have the smelter smoke to contend with and the questions named are all more or less inter-

> formed that considerable stock, chick ens, etc., have died through eating green lucern and other vegetation near the smelters. The loss to the agricultural industries through the smoke is o enough importance to necessitate the use of smoke consumers. The drouth question, as far as present indications are concerned, bids fair to be remedied by promise of a suffi-

cient supply of irrigation water. But

the grasshopper question was the most

esting topics to farmers, fruit-growers

we find that any quantity of bees that

we may place between the Jordan river and Ninth East street and south or

Twelfth South always die off, except a

few at the foothills at the extreme south end of the valley; and if placed

and others as well as beekeepers. If we consider the smelter smoke question

crops and lucern fields bare to the ground. Thus through the months of June, July and August, when there should have been a good honey flow un-

der normal conditions, the bees could not get enough to live on. No prophet is needed to foresee that our mutual benefit depends upon a strong union of interest through organization. Our beekeepers all over the state should unite for the purchase of supplies and also for the disposal of their products. And as many of the best conditions for wintering are their products. And as many of the best conditions for wintering are below to be a condition of the best conditions. supplies and also for the disposal of their products. And as many of the honey producing plants have been decreased by the hoppers and drouth, etc., our beekeepers should use every effort to again increase them. Among others they should sow white clover, sweet clover and clome or Rocky Mountain noney plant. Thus by increasing the honey flow our beekeepers may realize | tion.

ly in the south, that the state may have produced about as much bee products this season as it did last year. Our beekcepers should at all times try to keep their bees strong. watch and protect them from bee ene mies, because if they are weak in number they will not gather much honey if there is a good flow. they are strong with proper young bees and plenty of stores; and while favorable results are often obtained by packing the bees for the winter care should be taken not to seal them down air tight, because the air thus becomes foul which makes the bees weak and they may die of starva-

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tending their work and the importation of raw silk is also becoming much larger. Much is often said to encourage the efforts that are being made to find a substitute for the fiber produced by the silk worm. Some attention is at present being called to the fiber of two varieties of spiders existing in South Africa, which produce very strong silken threads. Very extensive experiments have been made in other countries along this same line during the last five years, with the result that the thread cannot be handled after the spider has spun it, on account of its adpering to everything it comes in contact with. While the silk worm provides a gum which protects the fiber and when the cocoons are put into hot water for reeling, this same matter cements any number of fine fibers together in a way that they can be twisted into a stronger thread. Then the gum can be removed and the silk used for any purpose desired. not refer to these matters in the spirit of criticism, but to show how important it is for us to continue our efforts ! THE SILK WORM.

to establish silk culture in our State. This wonderful little worm, which has wrought so much of beauty in the world is the larvae of a small known to scientific men as sericaria mori, its place among insects, being with the lepidoptera, insects or spinners. Many of its useful peculiarities have been acquired during the long centuries of cultivation i has gone through, it having truly be come a domesticated little creature een to increase the production therefore when compared with the na ive of a mulberry forest in China and isewhere, the cocoon is vastly dispro portionate to the size of the worm which makes it. These little creatures manifest much intelligence, which their thrifty habits inspire those about them to efforts which will yield the best pos sible results. They manifest no desire sible results. They manifest no desire to escape, as long as the supply of leaves is kept up. Several species are very closely allied, which spin a web of difflerent qualities, none, however, unite strength and fineness in the same proportion as the mulberry species.
We are still meeting with encourage the drouth, which has caused a short percentage of the cost of the product, son in parts of Davis, Salt Lake. Utah ing success in extending the interest in

HE manufacturers of silk in the | this important industry. We are pleased United States are yearly ex- to notice that Secretary Wilson of the coming actively interested in silk culture, insomuch as he is making an effort to have Congress assist in reviving an interest in the cultimation of the silk worm. He says: "So far as I am concerned, I know silk culture can be made a success in this country, People laughed at me when I said the beet sugar industry would be a success but it is a success, and the total yield this year will be 200,000 tons of sugar. Continuing on this subject he said:

"The Yankee can surmount almost any obstacle, and he immediately improves almost any idea or industry he imports. Interest from this source will do

much to encourage those who are working along these lines, and do a great deal towards removing unreasonable opposition. We are sure that no state has done more to revive an interest in this important agricultural product, than Utah, and we are sure the people will see to it that we keep in the lead. We have not yet seen a copy of the provisions recommended to Congress, but it seems that it is to furnish mulberry trees of the best varieties to those wishing to raise silk. This will do a great deal toward encouraging the planting of trees, which must be done before large quantities of silk can be produced. We are also glad to receive information from the Experiment Station in Logan, Utah, that they are anxious to do some work along this line, and we are very pleased to be able to inform the public that at no time since the creation of the Utah Silk commission has the prospects for the future been so bright as now.
MARGARET A. CAINE,

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